

Carteret County CTP Steering Committee Meeting
February 4, 2010, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Town of Morehead City Municipal Building

Attendees:

Carteret County:	Jim Jennings
Town of Atlantic Beach:	Jessica Fiester
Town of Cape Carteret:	David Rief
Town of Cedar Point:	Chris Seaburg
Town of Emerald Isle:	Kevin Reed
Town of Morehead City:	Linda Staab, Sandi Watkins
Town of Newport:	Bob Chambers
Town of Peletier/Bogue:	Joseph Reilly
Town of Pine Knoll Shores:	Julie Anderson
Downeast/CCTC:	Nick Johnson
Down East Rural Planning Organization:	Rob Will
NCDOT--Division 2:	Betty Ann Caldwell
NCDOT--Transportation Planning Branch:	James Upchurch
NCDOT--Transportation Planning Branch:	Carlos Moya-Astudillo

Documentation Provided by NCDOT:

Transportation Planning for Carteret County (Microsoft PowerPoint presentation)
CTP Goals and Objectives Statement – Guidelines
CTP Survey information letter – Guidelines
CTP Survey – Sample
CTP Brochure
Carteret County Functional Classification Map

Meeting Summary:

The meeting began with a brief introduction by each of the attendees. Followed by a question by Bob Chambers regarding how the CTP Committee relates to the Carteret County Transportation Committee (CCTC), it was agreed that the subcommittee will report back to the CCTC. This subcommittee has been appointed by Carteret County to work on this project.

James Upchurch communicated that it is important for all municipalities of the county to be represented on this committee. It was pointed out that there were no representatives present for some of the municipalities (i.e. Towns of Indian Beach and Beaufort). Linda Staab clarified that all municipalities in Carteret County had been notified of this meeting, in addition to CCATS, NC State Ports Authority, NC airports Authority, NC Railroad and NCDOT Ferry Division representatives.

Mr. Upchurch explained some of NCDOT's goals throughout the process will be to provide expertise, assist with the community survey, and incorporate community and steering committee feedback into the Carteret Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP will include multimodal transportation aspects such as Highways, Public Transportation and Rail, Bicycle, and Pedestrian, also taking into consideration Ferry (water component) and Airport (air component). It will be important to gain input from all agencies and entities involved, as well as input from the military. The project is on a twelve (12) to fourteen (14) month schedule. A trendline methodology will be used for traffic projections, and Land Use Plans will be used to assist in projecting population growth. Traffic counts of the average summer weekday will be used to plan this CTP project.

Mr. Upchurch said it is important to be aware of any studies which have taken place or which are currently in progress. The plans and studies mentioned included the Thoroughfare Plan for the Town of Newport, the Highway 24 (NC 24) Access and Mobility Study, the Down East Highway 70 (US 70) Project, the Crystal Coast Area "Long-range" Thoroughfare Plan, the Super US 70 Corridor Plan, the Compressed Diamond Study (port), any other studies related to the Military Growth Task Force, the Towns of Pine Knoll Shores and Morehead City Pedestrian Plans, Town of Morehead City's Bicycle Plan, Town of Emerald Isle's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, and any other municipality land use plans. Carlos Moya-Astudillo indicated that it would be helpful to

have a single Microsoft Excel file for the county showing which plans are in place, their format—pdf and/or ArcMap shapefiles, and whether they are in progress or the year they were approved or adopted. Ms. Staab said that the Town of Morehead City would create the Microsoft Excel file.

The committee identified several areas which will need to be addressed during the CTP planning process. Ms. Staab informed that there are spots which become congested in the Down East area which could be alleviated by adding a turn lane. Mr. Chambers stated that Hibbs Road and Mill Creek Road both come into Town of Newport; a possible solution would be to connect the roads so they do not dump into the residential areas. He also said there are fragile areas on Highway 70 (US 70) which flood and should be investigated for possible solutions.

Carlos reviewed the CTP Microsoft PowerPoint presentation, including the purpose and objectives of the Carteret County CTP plan, explanation of what a CTP is and the benefits of having one, sample of the five maps to be developed: Adoption Sheet, Highway Map, Public Transportation and Rail Maps, Bicycle Map, and Pedestrian Map. An explanation of the transportation planning process and tasks involved in developing a CTP, and a summary of each of the five road classifications that will be used in the project. The road classification categories to be used are Freeways Facilities, Expressways Facilities, Boulevards Facilities, and Other Major/Minor Thoroughfares.

Mr. Upchurch said a CTP survey would be conducted within the community to help identify problem areas, solutions, and community goals. Mr. Upchurch feels that the success of the survey will greatly depend on the committee. The committee may choose to host the survey electronically (i.e. SurveyMonkey.com), but paper copies should also be available for those who do not have access to a computer.

Prior to the next meeting, committee members should review the materials and think about what changes should be made to the survey letter, survey, etc. It will also be important for the committee to foster the development of a vision statement which represents Carteret County.

Influencing Studies:

1. NC 24 Study
2. Feasibility NC 101
3. Newport Thoroughfare Plan
4. Crystal Coast Transportation Plan Study
5. Down East Study (solution for flooding and narrow turn lanes-Open Grounds Farms)
6. Super Street US 70
7. Beaufort to east Northern Bypass
8. Pine Knoll Shores Pedestrian Plan
9. Emerald Isle Pedestrian Plan
10. All Municipal Land Use Plans
11. Military Taskforce Plan

Transportation Entities:

1. All Municipalities in Carteret County
2. Carteret County Board of Commissioners
3. Carteret County Transportation Committee

Other Entities and Stakeholders:

1. Airport Authority
2. NC State Ports Authority
3. Transit (PDES)
4. NCDOT--Ferry Division
5. NCDOT--Aviation
6. Military Taskforce

Initial Concerns:

1. Hibbs Mill Creek (residential area) to Town of Newport
2. Approach to Town of Morehead City (Storm and Hurricane Evacuation)